

REMARKS

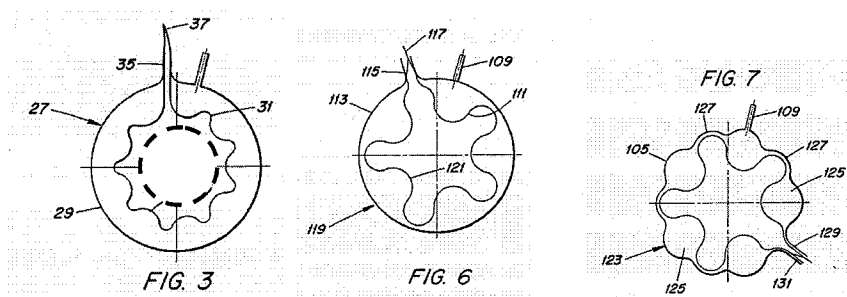
Prior to amendment, Claims 1-21 were pending in this application, with Claims 1 and 15 being independent.

Summary of Amendments	
Claim(s)	Change
--	Amended
15-19, 21	Withdrawn
--	Cancelled
22-24	Added

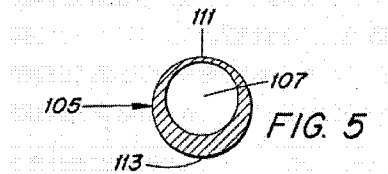
No new matter has been added. In view of the Examiner's earlier restriction requirement, Applicant retains the right to present Claims 15-19 and 21 in a divisional application.

ARGUMENTS

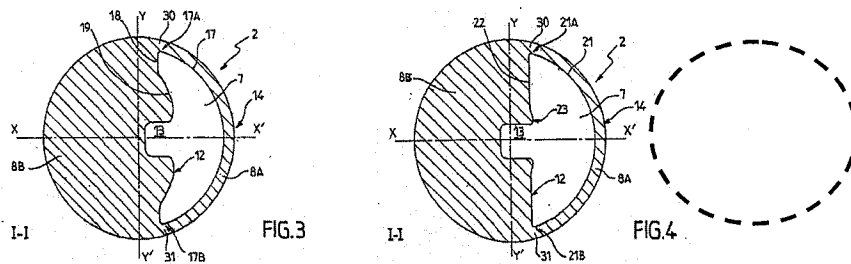
The Examiner cites Figs. 3, 6 and 7 of Jakobsson as teaching the cross-sectional configuration of the present clamp. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner re-review these figures. These figures, reproduced below, represent cross-sectional views through the entire band, as viewed from the top, as if slicing a bagel in half and opening it up. The band is shown in Fig. 3 as already configured for clamping, i.e., the tube ends have been drawn together so as to be able to clamp around an organ (represented by the added dashed circle). The center portion (where undulation 31 is shown) is the passage for the organ to be compressed, not the filling chamber.



Jakobsson's Fig. 5 is the only figure which provides a cross-sectional view of a cross section of the tube itself. As seen in Fig. 5 below, there is no longitudinal slot, or any structure which could be considered similar thereto.



In contrast, Figs. 3 and 4 of the present disclosure, reproduced below, are cross-sectional views cut through the width of the tube.



Present disclosure

Carrying through the description above, the band as shown in Fig. 4 would wrap around the organ (again, represented as the dashed circle) by having the surface 14 being in contact with the organ. The chamber 7 is filled with a fluid. This structure as claimed is different than Jakobsson. There is no disclosure or suggestion in Jakobsson that would provide a slot-like structure as presently claimed.

The bulges and recesses illustrated in Figs. 3, 6 and 7 of Jakobsson are in contact with surfaces for the organ (explicitly recited at column 7, line 59 of Jakobsson), not surfaces defined inside the compression chamber. Bulges and recesses are thus present on the internal wall of the chamber in Jakobsson. Stated differently, the bulges and recesses of Jakobsson extend along a transverse axis (perpendicular to the longitudinal axis) and not along a longitudinal axis.

Accordingly, the presently claimed claim is not anticipated or rendered obvious by Jakobsson.

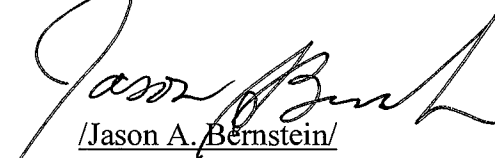
New Claims 22-24 have been added to reflect the structure of an exemplary embodiment of the disclosed band.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests such action. If the Examiner has any questions that can be answered by telephone, please contact the undersigned attorney of record at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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